



A home built from red sandstone by Thomas Phillips in the early days of the Lake Creek area. This photograph was taken of the home in 1910.

Richard
del 777-20
Home

Ray Vernon
Murdoch
Set

THOMAS AND ELIZABETH NASH PHILLIPS



Thomas Phillips was born January 1, 1828 in Bodenham, Herefordshire, England, and there learned farming. In England he met and married Elizabeth Nash on October 11, 1852. She was born February 9, 1829 in Broomsgrove, Worstershire, England, and was baptized into the LDS Church in 1846. Elizabeth's mother, Mary Ann Barns Nash and her brother James Nash emigrated to Heber in 1863 and 1864, leaving her father and other members of the family in England.

1079

By 1876 Thomas and Elizabeth had saved enough to make the trip to Utah. They arrived in Heber on August 9, 1875 and homesteaded 140 acres of land in Center. Lake Creek ran through their farm.

Thomas's farming experiences in England helped him immensely as he developed his farm in Center, even though he and his wife were unaccustomed to the rigors of pioneer life. They were, however, hard working and thrifty people, and soon were among the most successful cattle ranchers in the county.

Their children included Emma Phillips, born July 4, 1853; Rebecca Phillips, born January 1, 1858; Frederick T. Phillips, born 1861; Elizabeth Jessie, born August 29, 1865 and Harry James, born March 2, 1869.

Thomas Phillips died July 15, 1887 from an accident that occurred while he was hauling lumber from a sawmill in Pole Canyon to complete the building of a new home on Lake Creek. Elizabeth continued to care for her home and gardens, and enjoyed good health. She died May 29, 1900, three days after she fell from a wagon and struck her head on a rock while riding to a picnic with her daughter Jessie and son Harry.

THE CENTER CREEK STORY

1049



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the homes in Center Creek, Lake Creek, Heber and even in Salt Lake City. Some of the buildings constructed of the stone were the Stake House and County Court House, the jail and the Central and North Schools, all in Heber. The sand stone was also used for sidewalks and for lining graves.

Lake Creek settlers also had their irrigation water problems as the population began to grow, and on May 2, 1888 the farmers of the area met to formulate plans for an irrigation company. An organizing committee was formed with Robert Broadhead as chairman and Robert Clegg as secretary. By July 6, 1888 the company organization was ready and Mr. Broadhead was elected as the first president. William Lindsay was named secretary with Henry Chatwin as treasurer and John Lee and Henry Clegg as directors.

First stockholders in the company were Henry Clegg, Robert Broadhead, John Lee, Henry Chatwin, James Nash, Elizabeth Nash, a Mrs. Phillips, John Baird, William Baird, James Baird, Robert and William Lindsay, Milton and William Murdoch, Orson Lee, Abram Hatch, Bengt Peterson, Mrs. Elisha Jones, Richard Jones, Thomas Campbell, William Blake, Mrs. William Cole, Eric Erickson, William Priestly, John Lloyd, Nels and Ludwig Anderson, Thomas and William Clegg, William Davis, Rasmus Miller, Rasmus Anderson and Charles W. Giles.

For several years the Lake Creek settlement continued, and separate school and church organizations were developed. However, it was gradually assimilated into the Center Creek development and became part of that community.

Industry in Center Creek has largely centered around farming. However, one of the first sawmills in the valley was constructed in Center Creek Canyon by Henry McMullin, William M. Wall and James Adams.

A general store was opened by William Baxter, who also operated a creamery. He bought milk from the farmers, made it into butter and

Thomas Phillips Elizabeth Nash

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